

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 2-3.163 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.163 new)

7 Sec. 2-3.163. Career and technical education incentive
8 grants.

9 (a) Subject to a separate appropriation for this purpose,
10 the State Board of Education shall:

11 (1) annually confer and reach agreement with the
12 Illinois Community College Board and the Department of
13 Employment Security to identify industries and occupations
14 within this State that face workforce shortages or
15 shortages of adequately trained, entry-level workers;

16 (2) annually notify school districts of the identified
17 industries and occupations and make this information
18 available on its Internet website; and

19 (3) approve industry-recognized certification programs
20 designed to mitigate workforce shortages in any of the
21 industries or occupations identified under item (1) of this
22 subsection (a).

23 (b) Subject to a separate appropriation for this purpose,

1 the Illinois Community College Board shall:

2 (1) annually confer and reach agreement with the State
3 Board of Education and the Department of Employment
4 Security to identify industries and occupations within
5 this State that face workforce shortages or shortages of
6 adequately trained, entry-level workers;

7 (2) annually notify community college districts of the
8 identified industries and occupations and make this
9 information available on its Internet website; and

10 (3) approve industry-recognized certification programs
11 designed to mitigate workforce shortages in any of the
12 industries or occupations identified under item (1) of this
13 subsection (b).

14 (c) Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the State
15 Board of Education shall annually award incentive grants from
16 funds appropriated for that purpose to school districts and
17 community college districts in which pupils are able to enroll
18 in a certification program under item (3) of subsection (a) or
19 item (3) of subsection (b) of this Section, in the amount of
20 \$1,000 per pupil for each pupil who, in the prior school year,
21 obtained a high school diploma or a technical education high
22 school diploma from a public high school if:

23 (1) the school district has an industry-recognized
24 certification program approved under item (3) of
25 subsection (a) of this Section or the community college
26 district has an industry-recognized certification program

1 approved under item (3) of subsection (b) of this Section;

2 and

3 (2) the pupil successfully completed the
4 industry-recognized certification program in any school
5 year in which the program was approved by the State Board
6 of Education or the Illinois Community College Board.

7 (d) If the funds appropriated in any fiscal year are
8 insufficient to pay the full amount under subsection (c) of
9 this Section, the State Board of Education shall prorate the
10 amount of its payments among school districts eligible for an
11 incentive grant under this Section.

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
13 2016.